

Appl. No. 10/723,146
Amdt. dated October 18, 2007
Reply to Office Action of May 18, 2007

REMARKS

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.114, reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 – 3, 5 - 27, 33, and 34 are pending.

Claim 4 has been canceled.

Claims 28 - 32 have been withdrawn.

Claim 1 has been amended to add the step of **applying an antistatic agent to the substrate prior to full curing of the fluoropolymer so that the antistat does not interfere with the water repellency of the first side**, support for which can be found on page 17, line 21 to page 18, line 4 of the specification.

Claim 33 has been amended to add the limitations that the antistatic agent is applied to the substrate **prior to full curing of the fluoropolymer and that the antistat does not interfere with the water repellency of the first side**, support for which can be found on page 17, line 21 to page 18, line 4 of the specification.

No new matter has been added.

All of the pending claims were rejected in the Office Action dated May 18, 2007 under U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over of Baldwin (US 4,411,928) in view of some combination of Coates et al. (US 4,082,887), Gilbert (US 4,000,233), Weipert (US 4,169,062), and/or Potts (US 5,145,727). It is respectfully submitted that the present amendments to independent claims 1 and 33 distinguish the claims over the proposed combination of references.

Claims 1 and 33 set forth a process in which an antistatic agent is applied to a substrate following application of a fluoropolymer to the substrate but prior to full curing of the fluoropolymer.

None of the cited references teach or suggest a process in which an antistatic agent is applied to a substrate following application of a fluoropolymer to the substrate but prior to full curing of the fluoropolymer.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons stated above, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1 and 33 patentably distinguish over the applied references. The remaining claims

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depend directly or indirectly from independent claims 1 or 33 and only further patentably distinguish the film over the cited references. With the present amendment, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are allowable and that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable action thereon is respectfully requested.

Please charge any prosecutorial fees which are due to Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc. deposit account number 11-0875.

The undersigned may be reached at: 770-587-8626.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I, Richard M. Shane, hereby certify that on October 18, 2007, this document is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. (571) 273-8300.

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